HOUSE BILL 2880

By Weaver

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 1 and Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to offenses on school premises.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-2008, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

(a) In order to maintain the conditions and atmosphere suitable for learning:

(1)

- (A) A person shall not enter onto a school bus, except students assigned to the bus, the staff of the school assigned to the bus, the bus driver, the parents of students assigned to the bus, and other persons with lawful and valid business on the bus; and
- (B) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(1)(A), a person shall not enter onto a school bus without first obtaining authorization to enter onto the bus from the bus driver. This subdivision (a)(1)(B) does not apply to students assigned to the bus, the staff of the school assigned to the bus, or the bus driver; and
- (2) A person shall not enter, during school hours, upon the grounds or into the buildings of any school, except students assigned to the school, the staff of the school, the parents of students assigned to the school, and other persons with lawful and valid business on the school premises.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-2008, is further amended by deleting subsection (c) and substituting instead the following:

- (c) A violation of subsection (a) is a Class A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment, a fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500), or both.
- SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-2008, is further amended by adding the following as a new subsection:
 - (e) An LEA or public charter school may post on the LEA's or public charter school's respective school buses signs to notify persons of a potential trespass violation, and the associated penalties under law, for entering onto a school bus without first obtaining authorization to enter onto the bus from the bus driver.
 - SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it.